

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00

DLOS-09 OES-07 AID-05 IGA-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

L-03 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /123 W

-----124835 221309Z /43

R 221106Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9333

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS TUNIS 9080

USOECD

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EFIN, EAID, TS, JA

SUBJ: FIRST JAPANESE LOAN TO TUNISIA WILL FINANCE PURCHASE
OF SHIPS

1. A \$17 MILLION LOAN - FIRST JAPANESE GOVERNMENT LOAN EVER
MADE TO TUNISIA - WAS SIGNED ON DECEMBER 20. AMOUNTING TO
FOUR BILLION YEN OR ABOUT SEVEN MISSION DINARS, OGAN WILL BE
USED TO PURCHASE TWO BULK CARRIERS ("MINERALIERS") FOR THE
STATE SHIPPING LINE -- COMPAGNIE TUNISIENNE DE NAVIGATION
(CTN).

2. EXCHANGE OF NOTES AGREEING TO LO TDTLND BY TUNISIAN
MOFA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION HAMED AMMAR AND
JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO TUNISIA YUTAKA TAMURA. AMMAR SAID
THIS FIRST AGREEMENT FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN TUNISIA AND JAPAN CAME AS RESULT OF LONG PERIOD
OF CONTACTS AND DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE TWO COUNTRIES. THIS COOPERATION, HE SAID, OFFERED
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PROMISING PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE.

3. AMBASSADOR TAMURA SAID HIS COUNTRY WAS GLAD TOH
PARTICIPATE IN FINANCING OF FIFTH PLAN, AND HOPED FURTHER
AGREEMENTS WOULD FOLLOW.

4. COMMENTS: EMBASSY HAS HEARD THAT LOAN CARRIES INTEREST

RATE OF 3.5 PERCENT AND THAT TWO SHIPS, IN 10,000 TO 14,000
TON RANGE, SHOULD BE READY FOR DELIVERY ABOUT MID- 1979.
CTN THIS CONTINUES MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDED
DELIVERY OF SEVEN SHIPS IN 1976-77 (TWO LARGE BULK CARRIERS,
TWO ROLLON/ROOOF VESSELS OF 2,500 TONS EACH, TWO SHELTER
DECK CARRO VESSELS AND ONE TANKER) AND WHICH WILL INCLUDE
MAY 1977 DELIVERY OF LARGE CAR FERRY (120 BEDDED PASSENGERS
AND 340 AUTOMOBILES) BEING GUILT IN WEST GERMANY WITH KFW
CREDITS AND HERMES GUARANTEE.
MULCAHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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